

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 066680
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY

S/S-O:MCEURVORST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066680

EXDIS FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL RPT LUSAKA 0836 ACTION SECSTATE 14 MAR 78 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0836

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH

SUBJ: RHODESIA: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON POSSIBLE RHODESIAN USE
OF CHINOOKS

REF: STATE 64490; LUSAKA 0806; LUSAKA 0827

1. I CALLED PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT, MARK CHONA, TUESDAY
NOON TO ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO GIVE HIM A PRE-
LIMINARY REPORT ON THE CLAIM THAT THE RHODESIANS HAD USED
CHINOOKS HELICOPTERS IN THEIR MARCH 6 RAID. HE ASKED
ME TO COME OVER IMMEDIATELY SINCE HE WAS SEEING THE
PRESIDENT AT LUNCH TIME.

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2. I STARTED OFF BY SAYING THAT I ASSUMED THE PRESIDENT'S
REQUEST FOR A REPORT FROM ME WHICH HE HAD MADE AT THE
MEETING WITH THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND THEN REPEATED TO THE
PRESS LATER IN THE AFTERNOON WAS A SERIOUS REQUEST. CHONA
CONFIRMED THAT INDEED IT WAS (AND I TRUST REGISTERED
THE REST OF THE POINT). I REVIEWED FOR HIM THE POINTS
CONTAINED REF STATE TEL. I SAID THAT THERE WERE OTHER

HELICOPTERS IN THE AREA WHICH MIGHT BE CONFUSED FOR CHINOOK BECAUSE OF THEIR SIZE AND I HAD JANE'S WORLD AIRCRAFT WITH ME IN WHICH I SHOWED HIM THE CHINOOK. HE IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFIED THE OTHER HELICOPTERS AS THE PUMA (AERO SPATIALE SA 330) WITH WHICH HE WAS QUITE FAMILIAR. I TOLD HIM THAT I WAS ONLY GIVING HIM A PRELIMINARY ANSWER TO THE QUESTION BUT SAID THAT IF THE GRZ COULD GIVE US ANY FURTHER INFORMATION, INCLUDING SERIAL NUMBERS OR PHOTOGRAPHS, IT WOULD HELP US CONSIDERABLY.

3. CHONA THANKED ME AND WE MOVED INTO OTHER SUBJECTS.
LOW

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, ALLEGATIONS, HELICOPTERS, INVASIONS
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Draft Date: 15 mar 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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